

TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of *The Daily Star*

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Video games that challenge your mind
— PG6

We test drive a Mahindra TUV300 – PG4

RAZA ROMNAV

Buying Fridge From Walton Plaza, Jhawtola, Bogura

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WALTON

Chaitanya App



LinkedIn launches Stories, integrates video communication systems

LinkedIn, the Microsoft-owned employment-oriented online service is launched a new redesign of its desktop and mobile apps.

First, in four years, the new design introducing several new things. Most notable of which is their own version of Stories, the short from photo and video narrative style popular on other social media. The search feature now has a wider set of parameters. Finally, the Direct Messaging has also been updated, and now supports video chat including Zoom, BlueJeans, and Teams video integrations.

The goal of this new update appears to be designed to push engagement in ways other than LinkedIn's usual recruitment network platform. Currently, the company only plans to roll out the new layout in the U.S. and Canada, though the global expansion is expected to start soon.

Peugeot celebrates 210 years of history

A.G. Motors Bangladesh, the sole distributor Peugeot in Bangladesh, celebrated Peugeot's 210th anniversary on Saturday, June 26 at their official showroom at Gulshan-Tejgaon Link Road, Dhaka.

Yusuf Aman, Operations Director, AC Auto Division attended the event as Chief Guest. Senior officials of the organization were also present.

In recognition of their anniversary, Peugeot is offering free maintenance service for all new cars for 6 years or up to 60,000 km. Expecting customers will be able to enjoy this offer for one month



Bose Sleepbuds II is a \$250 earbuds that help you sleep

Bose has introduced the second generation of Sleepbuds, a pair of headphones specifically designed to help users get peaceful, uninterrupted sleep.

Unlike regular earbuds, the Sleepbuds don't play music. Instead, it plays a set of specially composed tracks designed to mask the kind of noises that can disrupt someone's sleep cycle.

Bose discontinued the first generation of the Sleepbuds because of battery issues. The new model addresses that with a new NiMH battery and features a new ultra-lightweight design with proprietary ear tips for snug fits. An expanded list of 35 tracks meant to "cover and replace" noise such as traffic, dog barking, and other late-night nuisances have been added. Each earbud is a quarter-inch deep so that side-sleepers can comfortably wear them against a pillow. There is also



an "anti-friction" coating that Bose claims will prevent squeaking noise when rubbed against fabric. The buds are rated for IPX4 for water and sweat resistance.

In a press release, Steve Romine, head of Bose's health division, said "Bose Sleepbuds II use advancements in our proprietary noise-masking technology because covering sound — not cancelling it — is better for sleeping."

Sleepbuds II will cost \$250 and Bose will start shipping in early October.

New cars this week



we have the Ferrari Omologata. Built by the prancing horse for a "discerning European client", the car is based off the already elegant 812 Superfast. Artisans from Maranello kept only the headlights and the windscreen, replacing the rest with hand-crafted, completely

The new BMW M4 is here, and it's one angry beaver. Powered by a twin-turbocharged 3.0-litre inline-six engine, this new performance beemer makes a whopping 503 Hp and 479 lb-ft torque. Said power is sent to the rear wheels through its eight-speed automatic gearbox, allowing the car to hit 0-100 in 3.8 seconds and reach an electronically limited top speed of 290 kph. The M4's interior has been left mostly untouched, except the usual M-badges and M-specific graphics on the infotainment screens. The car is set for its mass-market debut next spring with the top-spec M4 Comp starting at \$74,700.

From mass production track machines to a bespoke work of art,



revamped aluminium bodywork. Ferrari remains tight-lipped about the engine, indicating the retains the already immensely powerful naturally aspirated 6.5-litre V12 engine making 789 Hp and 530 lb-ft torque. There are no details about how much this running work of art costs, though it is safe to be to assume it was a significant premium over the \$340,000 price tag of the base Superfast.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Getting used to life after the new normal

Life after the new normal can be pretty daunting. Even if you think you want to get back to offices from the after months of working from home, things get a bit challenging. In this issue, we talk about how can cope yourself better with the regular way of working from your office spaces. We focus on the ride-sharing services industry and the way towards recovery from the somewhat fatal blow during the lockdown period.

Along with our regular take on everything tech and automobile, we talk about an initiative that offers free healthcare for the relentless workers of the RMG industry. And of course, we talk about Batman, something we can never get enough of.

-Nahaly Nafisa Khan, Sub-editor

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TechBits



Twitter to bring 'read before you retweet' prompts to all users

Spotify's new 'Polls' feature will let listeners interact with podcasts



Tesla Model S 'Plaid' slated for late 2021, claims Elon

Pinterest officially launches Story Pins beta



Amazon rolls out newer, rounder \$100 Echo

Increasing workplace productivity after being accustomed to the WHF routine

REHENUMA RAYSA

Offices have been closed worldwide in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and now are at various stages of reopening their doors. Heading back to the office setting after being away for so long can stir up a variety of emotions and might even make you feel overwhelmed. Since you plan on rejoining your old workplace, here are some strategies to help you adjust better and get your office work done seamlessly.

Hygiene still comes first

Although you are returning to the office, the world is still dealing with COVID-19 without a vaccine. Hence, it is important that everyone consciously makes an effort of keeping the workplace healthy, safe and equitable at all times. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, there are several steps you should take. Ramp up your hygiene by wearing masks, sanitizing all the equipment and common areas constantly and washing your hands frequently, as these habits are proven to significantly reduce the risk of aerosol particle emissions. You should also practice following the social distancing guidelines for spacing - maintain 3-6 feet distance, adopt the correct disinfecting protocols and refrain from shaking hands for a while.

Check up on your co-workers

It has been a whirlwind couple of months and setting up the office workspace, reorganizing your work life or sharing space with your colleagues

during the process can be challenging the beginning. Hence, you must take adequate time to familiarize yourself with working in an office again and while it is okay for you to take some time for yourself, reconnecting with your colleagues can help you adjust better in a different work environment. Take a little time to socialize and learn how they have been coping with this change. Many are afraid of the risk of exposure and an uncertain future, so it is important to continue being empathic to promote both physical and mental safety.

Be well-prepared for a fresh start

Planning your day before entering the workplace can give you proper guidance in completing your tasks. The proper tools or equipment can go a long way. An organized desk can ensure that your belongings have particular designated places. The more clutter-free your surrounding is, the less time you will have to waste thinking about the untidiness and relief from such unnecessary pressure can make your work-life ten times smoother. You can

experience of using technology and incorporate all your WFH skills to your advantage. You can try setting up an ambience where you do not easily get distracted. Turn your Zen mode on with soothing sounds to boost up your productivity. It has been shown in various studies that white noise or calming background music without lyrics can help create an ideal working environment. Music is a natural healer or pain-killer so, a little music can uplift your mood and help you emerge into the office work while ensuring you do not lose your sanity. This can improve your concentration to get more work done without making you feel down.

Take regular breaks

The tedious office, oft-times, can cause obstruction or hindrance in the workflow that can kill your precious time and for obvious reason is a big no-no. Taking breaks timely and sparingly can bring back the focus lost in the void. You can walk a little to keep the blood circulation going and move your muscles with



decorate your desk with some flowers or a few indoor plants of your choice to add some greenery to your view. You might have tons of downloaded apps, software, and unnecessary files and now is the time to prioritize decluttering and organising your digital life too.

Stick to what works for you

Remotely working gave you time to explore your niche, leverage your WFH

doable yoga postures to even get some workout done. De-stress your brain using various guided meditations available in apps like Headspace or Simple Habit or opt for sounds of the rainfall in rainymood.com. Keeping your food and water intake in check during these short breaks can help you regain your flow of work better while reenergizing your body and refreshing your mind.



4-LANE DHAKA-BHANGA EXPRESS HIGHWAY BUILT WITH BS RM XTREME

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2019 Mahindra TUV 300

RAHBAR AL HAQ

An old school rear-wheel drive, body on frame compact SUV from India that is only offered with a five-speed manual transmission. Making it quite a unique specimen in its segment.

How does it look?

To put it in a sentence, an engineer's dream, a designer's nightmare. Every design element on the TUV300 is there to serve a function, and has been put together with minimal regard to the overall aesthetics. There's a tall roof for good headroom, gouged out front bumper fog lamps because the car needs them, and diminutive 15-inch alloy wheels to help with fuel efficiency. The result is a highly practical car with unusual proportions and slightly off-putting lines, which take a while to grow on some people. However, what Mahindra disregarded in style has more than made up on toughness. Everything that is not mandated by the government to be plastic is made out of steel, giving the TUV a curb weight of almost two and a half-tons. Every door



on this car is heavy, and are expected to be slammed shut during operation. The same is true for the locks, which opens and closes with a loud thunk. In a world where every budget car is trying to imitate a racehorse, the TUV 300 is a pack mule and it's not ashamed about it.

What about the interior?

Rough, tough, and spartan, like the rest of the car. All the interior bits are made out of hard plastic built to outlast



your grandson. The seats are covered in leatherette, making them practically immune to stains, mud, and the occasional spillage. There is no central storage box, instead, the center console is riddled with multiple cubby holes and no less than three cupholders. Two jump seats make up the third row, a layout that while awkward, somewhat solves the legroom issue. The dose has a trick up its sleeves



in the features department, as automatic running door locks come standard with all cars. There is a 12-volt socket for your charging needs, placed at the base of the center console. Rear parking sensor comes standard from the factory and good folks from Mahindra Bangladesh has added an aftermarket rear camera free of charge.

How's the drive?

Bouncy, as expected from soft suspension.

The five-speed manual transmission makes the driving experience surprisingly fun, especially at the low end. The body roll increases significantly at higher speeds, so hitting triple-digit is not recommended. Shifting from second to third can be a bit tricky as the gate between third and fifth is vague at best, but the digital gear indicator on the gauge cluster lets you quickly let you know if you have shifted into the wrong gear. Mahindra stuff claims mileage is around 10 KMPL city and 16 KMPL highway, based on user feedback.

Should I get one?

If you are looking for a no-nonsense, rugged SUV that is built like a tank, this will do. Just understand that a tank isn't built for luxury, its built to outlast anything it is thrown against.

Specs

Engine: 1.5-liter mHAWK100 Diesel Engine with 2-Stage Turbocharger (100 HP, 240 Nm)

Transmission: Five-Speed-Manual, RWD

Safety: ABS, EBD, Dual SRS Airbags, rear parking camera and sensor.

Features: Automatic door locks, CD/USB/AM/FM/Bluetooth, front 12-v Charging port, fog lamps, climate control. Price: 22 Lakh

For details, contact Rangs Ltd.

ARE RIDE-SHARING SERVICES ON THE RIGHT PATH TO RECOVERY?

VERONICA GOMES

Since the emergence of ride-sharing services in Bangladesh back in 2016, the industry has experienced surging growth over the last four years with an estimated domestic market value of around \$1 billion by 2025, an estimate made before Covid-19. Subsequently, this growing industry, along with other forms of businesses, took a major hit with the unprecedented arrival of the global pandemic which struck Bangladesh earlier this year in March. Since then, these services have had to continuously innovate and adjust to keep up with the changing needs of the market and thereby adjust to the 'new normal'.

The Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) had issued a ban on public transports including ride-sharing services starting from March 26th, 2020. Consequently, the Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS) provided a list of 11 directives for ride-sharing services to follow in the event of their resumed operations. Three months after the ban, the government allowed these services to run again with the initial allowance of four-wheelers alone with subsequent eased restrictions on other forms as well. However changed public perceptions, increased health consciousness and new trends of remote work and online education decreased ride-sharing demands to a significant extent, especially during the four or five months following March.

To regain the trust of ride-sharing users, there has been a range of precautionary measures at play. One such proactive move was made by the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) which mandated Enlistment Certificates for all drivers of ride-sharing services to ensure that safety protocols are met. Procurement of the certificate requires drivers to have valid NID and driver's license documents and thus ensures the scope of tracking performance. This further sparked innovative regulatory changes to be implemented like Pathao's move whereby its riders are now required to take a selfie while wearing a mask to make sure safety protocols are met. The selfie acts as a form of daily log saved in the company's database, without which the riders aren't allowed to go online and thereby give rides to its users.

With the emergence of the new normal, idea-sharing has become the norm, whereby companies are collaboratively combatting the negative effects the pandemic has had on their businesses. This was further confirmed through a conversation with Ahmed Fahad, the Vice President of Pathao, where he mentioned, "Pathao has been in constant touch with similar businesses like Uber and Shohoz and we have been discussing ways to deal with the changing demands of our users." Consequently, these companies have



been strictly making sure safety practices are met by training their drivers to follow proper World Health Organization safety guidelines using masks, hair covers, gloves, disinfectants and hand sanitizers. Passengers aren't allowed to sit in the front seat and drivers are encouraged to keep windows down unless the passenger requests air conditioning. Drivers are handpicked and before each ride are asked to sanitize their respective cars to ensure safety.

Recognizing ride-sharing services as a growing necessity to Bangladeshi commuters in terms of reaching the destination at low cost and shorter time, Shohoz has collaborated with the E-commerce Association of Bangladesh (eCAB) to develop and implement safety protocols based on technical guidance issued by the Directorate General of Health (DGHS) to ensure the safest mode of transportation for users and riders alike. Furthermore, Uber Bangladesh has formulated a Transport Safety Alliance (TSA) with DBL Pharma, Zantrik, Dettol (Reckitt Benckiser) and Fresh Tissue which looks to make users more aware of safety protocols while equipping its drivers with necessary supplies from Zantrik-provided distribution points.

In the long run, COVID-19 is expected to affect businesses of all forms for another year, to say the least. Working and studying virtually will become the norm for a certain portion of the population. As a result, a limited number of people will have pressing reasons to go out and hence less number of people will

trigger the need for ride-sharing services. Keeping this shift in mind, companies like Pathao and Shohoz are diversifying their portfolio, having launched groceries and telehealth services during the pandemic to make sure its riders are given alternative modes of earning money for example- through parcel delivery, while demand for ride-sharing services recovers.

In conversation with Adnan Khan, Head of Truck Operations, Ticket & Ride at Shohoz, the following insights came to light, "We had to take a deep look into our roadmap and realign items to meet the challenges. Thanks to our nimble and highly qualified Tech and Product teams, we could make quick adjustments and expand our portfolio accordingly." While the demand for ride-sharing services was temporarily on a downfall, Shohoz's Health and Corona Tracer BD app helped them regain users' trust by their showing of dedication and sincerity towards combatting Covid-19 and thereby providing safety and good health for its users. Through the implementation of such measures, Shohoz, which resumed its ride-sharing services from September 3rd to a limited scale in Dhaka, are seeing an encouraging surge in its business with numbers going back to almost 75% of what they used to be before the pandemic.

On a global context, the prior estimated growth of 55% from 2020-21 for this industry is expected to be down by 2% post-COVID-19. However several adjustments including partitioned front

and back seats, temperature checks and use of sanitizers upon entry have been taken up by all ride-sharing services to regain user trust and hence hike up demand. While a lot of these services are making a comeback, their success strategies during the pandemic highly rely on service diversification and strengthening their stance in newly emerging markets.

In addition to the steps taken by Bangladesh's leading ride-sharing services, a few other necessary adjustments need to be made which global frontrunners like Uber, Lyft and Didi have already implemented abroad. Firstly, ride-sharing services in Bangladesh which are yet to implement online payment as an option should do so as cashless transactions are projected to become a necessity in the post-pandemic world. Secondly, as people's increasing tendency to stay home reduced air pollution significantly during Covid-19, increasing environmentally conscious users will prefer ride-sharing companies which are making use of eco-friendly alternatives to keep emissions at a minimum in the future as well.

All in all, Bangladeshi ride-sharing services are slowly on the trend of recovering most of their loyal users and regaining the trust of people throughout the country with its proactive safety protocols and adjustments. As the world experiences dynamic shifts, it is truly exciting to witness what innovative measures these businesses have in store for its users in the long run.

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CREATIVE GAMES TO EXERT YOUR MIND

RAHBAR AL HAQ



Cities: Skylines

Price \$ 10.49 on Steam

"I can design a better city than this!" is quite possibly a common saying among the denizens of Dhaka city. Well, get ready to put your money where your mouth is because this game lets you do exactly that. Cities: Skylines is a modern take on the classic city simulation games where you build a city from the ground up. As the immortal mayor of "garbagelandia" or whatever you wish to call your city, you make every decision

regarding your city's grown and expansion. This means you decide everything from the placement of residential zones to the size of the roads, to whether damming the city's sewage to generate power, smell be dammed. Multiple expansion packs add much more complex gameplay mechanisms and assets to an already complex game, while there is enough user-made content on the Steam Workshop to completely change the game inside and out. So, if you ever wanted to one-up our city officials, this is the game to try.

House Flipper

Price \$ 8.19 on Steam

If you ever had a knack for interior decorating or real estate, House Flipper is a great way to get your feet wet. The game is a house renovation/interior decorating simulator where you, a handyman realtor, buy a depilated house, clean it up, renovated it, and then sell it for a profit. The game gives you a massive variety of tools for renovation, where everything besides the outside walls can be changed to your heart's content. There are tons of furniture and other fittings as well, giving you the option to design your perfect kitchen, living room, and even a mancave, providing you buy a house with a large enough basement. Overall, if you are starting to find the inside of your house boring and wish to redecorate without the taxing physical labor, this game is your escape route.



Subnautica

Price \$8.49 on Steam

Virtually all Survival games have the same premise. The player is going somewhere, stuff goes wrong, there is a big crash in the middle of nowhere and the player is the sole survivor. Well, the premise of Subnautica is mostly that, but instead of the usual jungle, the player's ship crashes down in a giant water world filled with all kinds of alien ocean life. After surviving the crash, the player must learn to survive, build a base operation, solve a million-year-old mystery and scrounge up parts to build a small rocket so he can leave his aquatic mansion and finally return to his mundane job of planet surveying. During his adventure, the player will encounter various unique and fantastic sea life, from the cute but slightly creepy Eyefish to absolutely terrifying and lethal 50-foot-long Reaper Leviathans that chew everything into tiny little pieces. If you are a fan of good science fiction mystery and fascinated by sea life, you will love this game.



Automation - The Car Company Tycoon Game

Price \$ 10.49 on Steam

If there one thing petrolheads are known for, it's their love of vehicle customization. We will take a run-of-the-mill sedan and will eventually end up changing 50% of it. From tires to an entire engine, we will change anything our budget and imagination will allow. Because in our minds, we are all Enzo Ferrari's who are on our way to create the next generation of supercars, only held back by the roadblock of reality. Automation lets you sidestep this roadblock, and puts you in charge of a virtual car company.

You are tasked to build everything, from chassis type to engine cram profile, to what type of taillights looks best on your million-dollar supercar that surely won't fly off the test track. Speaking of the test track, the major drawback of this game is that you can't drive the vehicles. You can, however, buy another game called BeamNG.Drive (\$25 on steam), where you can import and drive your prototypes. So, if you ever wondered what a K-20 based mid-engine Honda supercar would be like, grab this game and start making it yourself.

Oh, and upload the finished car to Steam workshop, I want to drive that.

From the Depths

Price \$ 8.19 on Steam

From the Depths (FTD) is a game where you design and build giant weapons of war to fight other similar creations in a total war scenario. The game provides you with a plethora of building material and propulsion to built your war machine, and there is no limit to what you can build. From a swarm of steam-powered wooden attack jet to a fleet 200-meter long battleship that shoots lasers from all of its orifices, anything is possible in the crazy world of FTD. And after you are done with your

crazy science projects, you can take them into games multiple campaigns, each containing a massive map for you to dominate and conquer. Your mad science project will face against eight uniquely themed factions, each equipped with dozens of user-created designs fielding different tactics and with varied strengths and weaknesses. So, if you are a mad scantest who wishes to vent their frustration through the art of destruction, this game is for you. Just be careful of the learning curve, the games do not mess around when it comes to engines and weapons design.



Free healthcare for RMG workers

NOMROTA SARKER

Bangladesh is a country with an emerging economy that has been able to secure steady growth of 6.8% over the last few years. A significant driver of this growth is the Ready-Made Garments (RMG) sector - the single largest source of export earnings by backing 84.5% of the total earnings of the country. This sector alone created employment opportunities to 4.2 million people, 85% of whom are women belonging to low-income rural families. Despite being afflicted with industrial tragedies in recent times such as factory fires and the cataclysmic collapse of Rana Plaza that shook the country, the RMG sector has stayed afloat, gradually improving its operations day by day.

However, this industry suffered from a massive blow during the coronavirus pandemic, with a plummeting revenue and consequential job loss of a myriad of workers. In a time, when they required medical attention the most, there was almost no scope for the workers to avail of traditional healthcare services from public hospitals and clinics. Many of them resorted to digital healthcare services where Maya played a big role in attending to their needs in such a desperate situation. In retrospect, from February 2020 to March 2020 Maya experienced a 2700% increase in the number of queries for support and information about COVID-19. This platform has been tackling multi-dimensional healthcare issues reported by patients all across the country since the official lockdown was imposed.

The qualms of RMG workers worsened when their work resumed from the 26th of May, 2020. This made them more susceptible to the virus that consequently led to many of them testing positive. To address the multidimensional vulnerabilities faced by RMG workers during these turbulent times, Maya and Marks & Spencer Bangladesh has signed an MOU to provide free digital healthcare services to this specific community and to help prevent and limit the spread of Covid-19. Under this agreement, workers of 87 Marks & Spencer enlisted factories will get advice on COVID-19 issues as well as physical and mental health issues using the Maya app. They will get advice on COVID-19 issues as well as physical and mental health issues from licensed doctors and counsellors. The services will be available to 3,20,000 garment workers spread around 8 districts across the country as well as their relatives. Keeping in mind that many of them do not have access to smartphones, Maya has created toll-free hotline and SMS services, through which workers can consult doctors and counsellors within minutes.

Another key activity of this collaboration is the dashboard access to factory management, which allows



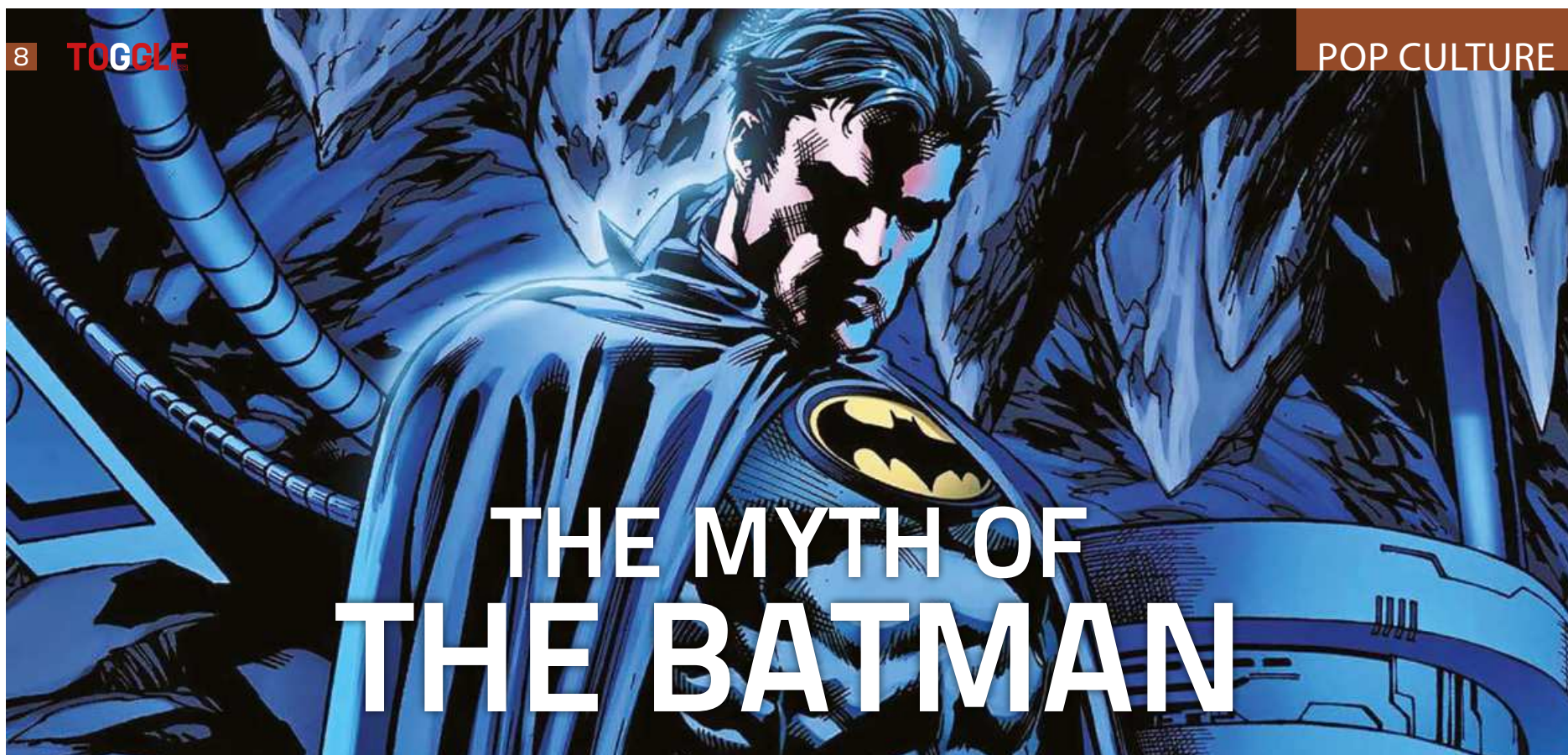
them to identify workers who are highly symptomatic to COVID-19 as well as monitor the overall health condition of the entire employee base.

Maya has been working closely with the government to cater to the healthcare needs of this sensitive demography throughout the COVID crisis. Under Bangladesh Government's Access to Information (A2i) Telemedicine initiative, Maya has attended 1500 calls since the initiative started in March 2020.

Mizanur Rahman, Head of Social Compliance of Marks & Spencer said, "Though Marks & Spencer is a business organization, our workers' health has always been our priority. Keeping this in our mind we have come in partnership with Maya to provide digital health care service to our factory workers in the difficult Covid-19 pandemic situation. Hope this initiative will help our workers to have easy access to medical facilities."

This partnership ensures a double

layer of healthcare protection for all the employees working in garments facilities. Workers are getting instant access to digital healthcare services for free, which would have cost them around BDT 125 per month to avail. On the other hand, if any worker displays high risk of COVID-19 symptoms or other health risks, Maya can alert the factory, minimizing further transmission and help the worker by guiding them through the necessary steps needed.



ISRAR HASAN

Batman is consistently ranked in the list of top superheroes with him not having the one attribute that his fellow superheroes share in common – superpowers. The psychological makeup of the Dark Knight has taken a host of different shapes of guilt, shame, and alienation.

While heroes such as Spiderman and the X-Men do share these emotions, the Batman has come to embody them in the subsequent generations of the character's personality development. The character slowly evolved from a cop in a cape into an obsessed loner and at various times, a depressive schizophrenic.

Crusading into the Darkness

The iconography of the Batman is etched to all of our minds as a figure of fear who works best in the shadows – a far cry from how Batman first erupted onto the public scene. Initially, simply enough, the character was designed as a murderous, gun-wielding vigilante whose personas

over the eras changed to a time-and-space-hopping gadfly to a versatile master spy and criminologist to the lone ninja overseeing a city, which fears him – a fear that he gladly takes into his stride.

The elasticity of Batman's character designs has allowed him to fit into various stereotypes enhancing limitless imaginations that range from the egregiously comical to the vengeful to the grim and knowledgeable, all with a dark twist of the reality of having to fight off foes with carrying the constant burden of losing his parents in a city they helped build.

The malleable nature of Batman, allows many comic book fans to find him the most relatable superhero there is. While many focus on his lack of superpowers, his wealth is often overlooked to be a core element of his character.

Unlike other superheroes, however, Batman still symbolizes an ideal that every comic book fan out there can aspire to be. His willingness to change and fight is what

makes the character appealing to many. In being an agent of change, he defacto becomes a catalyst for change in the world around us.

The Batman Effect

Medical journals released in 2016 regarding children's mental development suggested helping children to create an alter ego – anything of their choice and relatability – helps to increase their overall ability to persevere. T

This is called "the Batman effect"-named due to Bruce Wayne's constant struggle to overcome hurdles being a mere mortal-which refers to children performing better in tasks if they pretend to be someone else, who is largely successful in that task. They could pretend to be anyone – be it a fictional or non-fictional character- they can relate with and who inspires them to rise up to the occasion. "Self-distancing" as it can be called helps to instil self-discipline in children helping them to navigate

through their own will power, a concept a child psychologists have found beguiling.

Batman has served as a real-life inspiration for his many followers including the famous "Batkid". Miles Scott, a 5-year-old child with cancer has aspired to be Batman for one day in 2013 and with the help of Make a Wish foundation in America and numerous other well-wishers, he gets a complete makeover of San Francisco into the fictional Gotham City with a special day of remembrance to him. Now 10 years old and cancer-free, this shows the moral and physical fortitude a young child derived from a creation that through its personal development has endured numerous reinventions.

Perhaps, that is the enigma of the World's Greatest serving as a Sisyphian symbol of hope that keeps on striving no matter the odds. With his famed gallery of villains, anti-heroes, and himself, the Batman franchise is perhaps the one more deeply seated with our current world.

us on f /Sandalina

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